

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments in this paper, claims 1 and 3-10 will be pending in the above-identified application. Claim 1 is herein amended. No new matter is entered. It is respectfully submitted that this paper is fully responsive to the Office action mailed on September 2, 2009.

Examiner's Response to Arguments of August 10, 2009:

Specifically, regarding independent claim 1, Applicants argued that the feature of "said definition files are provided on a field device basis," was not disclosed or rendered obvious in the cited references. The examiner contends that this feature is disclosed by *Shoji*. The examiner states that:

The ACF11 includes a definition file builder that defines configuration data for each fieldbus device.

Applicants respectfully submit that the examiner's statement here is conclusory. That is, there is no evidence provided to support the examiner's position. The examiner goes on to state:

The data is then downloaded to its respective fieldbus device where its status can be viewed on an HIS screen (pg. 23, Col. 2). Therefore, there is provided a definition file for each field device. (Emphasis added.)

As indicated above, the examiner contends that the data is “downloaded to its respective fieldbus device.” However, this disclosure does not disclose the claimed invention and in fact, teaches away from the claimed invention.

Recall from claim 1, recited below, that the data acquisition means reads data from the field devices. The description means then writes this data to definition files. Further, the definition files are provided on a field device basis. Thus, claim 1 provides for a specific flow of information through the claimed apparatus.

As quoted above in *Shoji*, data is downloaded **to** the respective field devices, not **from** the respective field devices as recited above in claim 1. As such, the combination of the two references teaches away from the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,076,952 to *Gretta, Jr.* in view of *Shoji et al.* (“Fieldbus System Engineering, 1999”).

Although not believed necessary by Applicants, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 in order to further distinguish the claimed invention. Specifically as a non-limiting example as shown in FIG. 2 of the present application, the data acquisition device can be located in a field control station, which is connected to a bus which is connected to interface equipment, which is connected to a fieldbus. Further, the field control station is also connected to a personal computer 20 which includes a description means and memory for holding the definition files. The personal computer 20 also contains the generation device and display device.

According to *Shoji*, the alleged definition files appear to be located in the AFC11, as shown in the bottom of Figure 4. As indicated in FIG. 2 of the present application, the definition files are located in personal computer 20. As such, Applicants have included this additional structure to help further distinguish the claimed invention from *Shoji*.

According to the examiner, the data acquisition device, description device, generation device and display device are all disclosed in column 10 of *Gretta*. Column 10 describes FIGS. 9A and 9B, which are part of the same flow chart. FIGS. 9A and 9B illustrate the operation of the fieldbus configuration utility, according to the Brief Description of the Drawings.

According to column 7, lines 51-53 of *Gretta*, the fieldbus configuration utility is executed by computer system 14, as shown in FIG. 1. As such, according to the examiner's interpretation of the reference, the data acquisition device is located in the computer system 14.

As shown in FIG. 2 of the present drawings, the data acquisition device is located in the field control station. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not disclose or render obvious the claimed invention.

Independent Claim 1 now recites:

Independent claim 1 recites:

A data display system for use with field devices, comprising:

a field control station which includes a data acquisition device for reading data from field devices connected to a fieldbus; and

a computer comprising,

a description device for writing data read by said data acquisition device to definition files according to a predetermined format to create definition files that define the way the data of said field devices is displayed;

a generation device for interpreting said definition files wherein data is written to generate display data; and

a display device for displaying said generated display data on a personal computer on a network,

wherein said definition files are provided on a field device basis.

In addition to the distinguishing features of claim 1 presented above, the builder definition file in claim 1 have totally different properties/content.

The former is a file which describes the data downloaded to the machine, i.e. the data set on the machine, and the latter (the present amendment) is a file which describes definitions for simulating machine behavior, so they are innately different.

Another way of putting it is that the defined content for the file in the present amendment intends the PC to act as a virtual display unit, just as a machine's internal data is displayed by a built-in program when a display unit is temporarily connected to a machine.

The recitation relating to display which is disclosed by Gretta recites direct display, without interpreting simple data, and could be called a general method.

On the other hand, by using the definition file of the present amendment, the recited definition is converted into display data by an original algorithm, and this is what characterizes it.

That is, the novelty is in the notation of the defined statement.

As previously noted, the intention of the defined content of the builder file is innately different and is not at all the same as the definition file disclosed by Shoji.

Application No. 10/654,926
Art Unit: 2442

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Attorney Docket No. 031062

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Dennis M. Hubbs
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 59,145
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

DMH/rer